

Cree Valley Community Council

Minutes: 6th September 2021

7:00pm McMillan Hall

Attendees: Ben Palmer (Chair), Clifford Smithers (Vice Chair), Charles Marshall (Secretary), Jim Brown, , Angela Marshall, Alison McCathie, Jenny Marshall, Ben Palmer, Morag McIlwraith, Cllr K. Hagmann, Cllr J. McCamon.

Apologies: Cllr. D Inglis, Richard Kay (treasurer), Rev. N Newton, Melinda Dolan (DGC), Steph Bishop.

Guests :Jenna Cains(Biosphere), Nigel Bradley (Troubshaw Cumberlege)

Chair – Welcomed all to the September meeting.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

Proposed – C. Smithers.

Seconded – J. Brown.

Chair – Matters Arising

None.

Police Scotland: Report & Questions.

Police Report circulated in separate email.

Cllr J. McCamon stated that the CCTV in Newton Stewart requires to be upgraded.

J. Brown proposed that a 20mph speed limit is introduced for Victoria Street in Newton Stewart.

Cllr K. Hagmann stated that the Council were already investigating this option.

Visitor Presentations

Jenna Cains gave a presentation on the advantages to the area of becoming a biosphere community.

Nigel Bradley gave an update on the planned process for work on potential mineral extraction in the area. This will include the use of a drone on the week beginning 11th October. He added that it could take up to fifteen years before any mineral extraction would take place.

Elected Members

Cllr J. McCamon reported that there is an issue with the library opening times and this is being investigated. She added that road works were being prioritised.

Cllr K. Hagmann reported that Derek Crichton would be visiting the ward on 29th September. She added that the Council Budget would be reduced in future years by approximately £30million in the next three years.

In addition, the Winter Service Plan will be available shortly.

1. Planning

J. Brown reported that the following relevant applications had been received:

- Six holiday units at Bargrennan.
- Three Industrial Units in Minnigaff.

In addition, the new changing places facility at Douglas Park had no allowance for drainage. He added that the Vault in Victoria Street had applied for a late Licence which also included live music.

2. Newton Stewart Flood Protection Scheme

B. Palmer stated that the River Cree requires maintenance. He added that this should also apply to the whole of Scotland.

J. Brown reported that the Solway Flood Plan does not mention river repairs or maintenance.

3. Kilgallioch Wind Farm Benefit Fund

B. Palmer stated that CVCC requires the unedited review of the Kilgallioch Wind Farm Benefit.

4. Events Group

C. Smithers reported that events were being organised by Cree Valley Area Development Trust (CVADT)

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C. Smithers reported that a successful Car Boot sale had been held in Minnigaff park. He added that the next event planned was a Winter Wonderland to be held November/December 2021.

6. Resilience

C. Smithers thanked the Resilience Team for their support at the Car Boot sale.

7. Forest Tracks

B. Palmer expressed concern over access for Emergency vehicles, lack of information on new tracks and blocking of forest paths by the Land and Forestry Scotland. This was particular in the area surrounding Bargrennan. It was agreed a letter would be written to Land and Forestry Scotland.

8 Update on Action points

C. Marshall reported that:

- The erosion on the River Cree was still outstanding.
- Glentool - road/pavement repairs were still outstanding.
- The off Princes Avenue/lane requires the repairs carried out to be finalised.
- T junction at the Cree Bridge was in urgent need of repair, still outstanding.

Public Forum – None.

Correspondence

All issued prior to meeting.

Financial Update:

The Financial Reports were distributed.

AOCB

It was agreed that CVCC's subscription to Zoom would continue until at least the end of the year,

Next meeting 4th October 2021 at 7:15 p.m. McMillan Hall.